



USDA EGG MARKET NEWS REPORT

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NATIONAL EGG MARKET AT-A-GLANCE



In New York, prices were two cents lower on the larger sizes and unchanged on mediums when compared to Thursday. Trade sentiment was weak on the heavier weights and barely steady on the lighter weight eggs entering the weekend. Demand into all channels was slow to occasionally fairly good, best where featured. Supplies were fully adequate to ample with the larger sizes in the longest position. Breaking stock offerings were noted as about adequate to available for normal to at times reduced schedules. Spent hens were mostly adequate and demand was reported as at least moderate. Processing schedules were reduced.

Prices to retailers, sales to volume buyers, USDA Grade A and Grade A, White eggs in cartons, cents per dozen.

MIDWEST REGIONAL Prices to producers in IA-MN-WI were 5 cents lower for large and down 2 cents for medium. All other reported prices were unchanged. Trade sentiment was weak for the larger sizes and barely steady for the lighter weight eggs. Retail egg sales were light to at times fairly good where featured. Loose egg movement was slow. Supplies were fully adequate to ample for all sizes. Central States breaking stock prices were unchanged. Offerings were adequate to available for the light to moderate demand. Floor stocks balanced to adequate. Schedules full time. Trade sentiment about steady.

Prices delivered to warehouse:

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	77-86	80-83
LARGE	76-85	78-81
MEDIUM	47-56	49-52
Prices delivered to store door:		
	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	84-92	85-87
LARGE	82-90	83-85
MEDIUM	53-61	54-56

Midwest Area: IA, IL, IN, KY, MI, MN, OH, NE, ND, SD, WI, WV, Western NY & Western PA .

SOUTH CENTRAL REGIONAL Prices were unchanged. Trade sentiment was weak for the larger sizes and barely steady for medium. Cartoned egg sales were light to at times fairly good when features were a driving factor. Food service movement was slow. Supplies were fully adequate to ample for all sizes. Central states breaking stock prices were unchanged. Offerings were adequate to available for the light to moderate demand. Floor stocks balanced to adequate. Schedules full-time. Trade sentiment about steady.

Prices delivered to warehouse:

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	88.5-97	90-93
LARGE	86.5-95	88-91
MEDIUM	54.5-63	56-59

South Central Area: AR, AZ, CO, KS, LA, MO, MN, OK & TX.

SOUTHEAST REGIONAL Prices were unchanged, although asking prices for next week deliveries were trending lower. Trade sentiment was barely steady to weak. Retail and distributive demand was light to moderate. Supplies were adequate to ample for present trade needs. Breaking stock offerings were sufficient for the light demand. Spent hen offerings were adequate for the at least moderate demand.

Prices delivered to warehouse:

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	84.25-95	89-92
LARGE	83.75-93	87-90
MEDIUM	55.5-63	56-60

Southeast Area: AL, FL, GA, MS, NC, SC, Eastern TN & Southern VA.

NORTHEAST REGIONAL Prices were unchanged, however asking prices for next week's deliveries were trending lower on all sizes. Trade sentiment was weak and unsettled entering the weekend. Demand into all channels ranged light to at times fairly good. Supplies were fully adequate to ample for full trade needs. Breaking stock offerings were about adequate to fully adequate for normal to at times reduced schedules. Demand was reported as light to moderate. Spent hens were mostly sufficient for the at least moderate demand. Slaughter schedules were noted as less than normal.

Prices delivered to warehouse:

	RANGE	MOSTLY
EXTRA LARGE	86-100	86-89
LARGE	80-94	85-89
MEDIUM	53-66	58-60

Northeast Area: CT, DC, MA, MD, ME, NH, Eastern NJ, Eastern NY, Eastern PA, RI, Northern VA, & VT.

NEW YORK Prices were 2 cents lower on extra large and large, however mediums were unchanged when compared to Thursday's prices. Trade sentiment was barely steady to mostly weak. Demand remained light to moderate. Supplies were fully adequate to ample for trade requirements, with heavier weights in the longest position.

Prices delivered to store door:

	RANGE
EXTRA LARGE	83-87
LARGE	81-85
MEDIUM	63-67

WESTERN Prices unchanged. The market tone was weak with asking prices for next week 9-10 cents lower on jumbo, extra large, and large, 2 cents lower on medium. Retailer demand improved. Offerings easily adequate.

CALIFORNIA Prices unchanged. The market tone was weak with asking prices for next week 10 cents lower on jumbo, extra large, and large, 2 cents lower on medium and small. Retailer demand improved, best where features planned. Offerings less ample. Small benchmark price 75.

CALIFORNIA: Shell egg marketer's benchmark price for negotiated egg sales of USDA Grade AA and Grade AA in cartons, cents per dozen. This price does not reflect discounts or other contract terms.

	RANGE		RANGE
JUMBO	134	EXTRA LARGE	130
LARGE	123	MEDIUM	95

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA:

Prices to retailers, sales to volume buyers, USDA Grade AA and Grade AA, white eggs in cartons, delivered store door, cents per dozen.

	RANGE		RANGE
JUMBO	114-123	EXTRA LARGE	112-117
LARGE	110-113	MEDIUM	82-85

Prices to consumers major chains, metropolitan area, USDA Grade AA and Grade AA, white eggs in cartons, cents per dozen.

	RANGE		RANGE
JUMBO	269-329	EXTRA LARGE	249-309
LARGE	199-249	MEDIUM	189-219

CENTRAL REGION BREAKING STOCK Prices unchanged. Offerings were adequate to available with lighter weight shell eggs in the longest position. Demand was light to moderate with many breakers willing buyers of liquid whole egg and reported that this was more economically feasible than purchasing heavy breaking stock. Floor stocks balanced to adequate. Schedules full-time. Trade sentiment about steady.

Prices in cents per dozen, delivered to breakers, 48 lb. minimum net weight per 30 dozen case, eggs from table egg layers. Packaging may vary.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
CHECKS & UNDERGRADES	21-25	21-23
BREAKING STOCK	34-37	
CENTRAL STATES AREA: AR, CO, IA, IL, IN, KS, LA, MI, MN, MO, NM, ND, NE, OH, OK, SD, TX, WI		

EASTERN REGION BREAKING STOCK Prices were unchanged when compared to early week's trading. Trade sentiment was at best steady. Most buyers were unaggressive and continued monitoring further market developments. Offerings were sufficient for the light demand. Floor stocks were generally adequate for mostly normal processing schedules. Cases broken under federal inspection in the Eastern region for the week ending 31-Dec-05 was 13% less than last week and 8% less than the same week a year ago.

Prices in cents per dozen, delivered to breakers, 48 lb. minimum net weight per 30 dozen case, eggs from table egg layers. Packaging may vary.

	RANGE	MOSTLY
BREAKING STOCK	35-38	
CHECKS & UNDERGRADES	21-28	22-25
EASTERN STATES AREA: AL, CT, DE, FL, GA, KY, ME, MD, MA, MS, NH, NJ, NY, NC, PA, RI, SC, TN, VT, VA, WV		

EGGS PROCESSED UNDER FEDERAL INSPECTION -W/E 31-Dec-2005 (LBS IN THOUSANDS) (EXCLUDES INGREDIENTS)

	CASES BROKEN	LIQUID WHOLE	LIQUID WHITE	LIQUID YOLK	DRIED	INED	
CW	1,126,461	28,790	9,812	5,157	2,344	3,809	
PW	1,152,875	29,972	9,586	5,006	2,559	3,939	
LY	1,177,639	27,183	12,035	6,606	3,155	4,256	
% PW	-2%	-4%	2%	3%	-8%	-3%	
% LY	-4%	6%	-18%	-22%	-26%	-10%	
2005	67,703,058	1,620,182	646,254	346,243	147,988	228,839	
2004	64,354,489	1,531,122	619,452	335,443	138,108	221,903	
% YTD	5%	6%	4%	3%	7%	3%	
					CW	PW	LY
Average Yield Per Case - (Inedible Included)					42.23	42.07	42.53
Average Yield Per Case - (Inedible Excluded)					38.85	38.65	38.91

IN-LINE PRODUCTION (of total production; lbs. in thousands; may include a limited amount of off-line source material)

	Cases Broken		Liquid whole	
	Cases	% of Total	Lbs.	% of Total
CURRENT WEEK	528,650	46.90%	15043	52.30%
PREVIOUS WEEK	508,501	44.10%	15465	51.60%
LAST YEAR	513,552	43.60%	12988	47.80%

SOUTHERN CALIFORNIA FROZEN Prices were 1 cent lower on whole, unchanged on whites, and 3 cents lower on yolks. Southern California breaking activity for the holiday week ending 12/31 was 27% less than the previous week. Frozen demand good with freezer stocks generally adequate.

Wholesale selling prices, f.o.b. shipping point (cents per lb. in 30 lb. containers)

	RANGE
WHOLE	51-55
WHITES	42-45
SUGARED YOLKS (MIN 43% SOLIDS)	67-70
SALTED YOLKS (MIN 43% SOLIDS)	64-67

CENTRAL REGION FROZEN Frozen whole egg prices ranged 1 to 2 cents lower with whites unchanged to 1 cent lower. Frozen sugared yolk ranged 2 to 5 cents lower with salted yolk prices declining 2 to 4 cents. Trade sentiment was steady to instances barely steady for frozen whole egg, steady to fully steady for whites, and weak for frozen yolk products. Demand was quiet with offerings sufficient for the current lackluster interest. Heaviest interest in spot frozen products was in less than truckload quantities as most buyers felt further market adjustments were to be seen in the very near future especially on yolk products. Central States breaking stock prices were unchanged when compared to last week.

Wholesale selling prices (cents per lb. in 30 lb. containers)

TRUCKLOTS	RANGE	MOSTLY
WHOLE	46-48	
WHITES	37-41	39-41
SUGARED YOLKS (MIN 43% SOLIDS)	60-66	63
SALTED YOLKS (MIN 43% SOLIDS)	57-63	59-60

EASTERN REGION FROZEN Majority prices were unchanged to slightly lower on whole, lower on yolks, but higher on whites when compared to a week earlier. Demand and trading remained slow with no aggressive buying. Offerings were usually adequate for trade requirements. Trade sentiment was barely steady to mostly weak on yolks, about steady on whole, and fully steady on whites. Liquid and frozen eggs (ingredients included) processed under federal inspection in the Eastern region for the week ending 31-Dec-2005 were 12% less than the previous week and 8% lower than a year earlier.

Wholesale selling prices (cents per lb. in 30 lb. containers)

TRUCKLOTS	RANGE	MOSTLY	LTL (MIN. 25 CONT.) RANGE
WHOLE	45-50	46-50	52-56
BLENDS (/)	TFEWR		61-80
WHITES	35-41	39-41	42-55
SUGARED YOLKS (MIN 43% SOLIDS)	60-66	63-65	67-81
SALTED YOLKS (MIN 43% SOLIDS)	57-63	59-61	63-80

(/) - Whole plus yolk plus sweetener, generally 28-32% egg solids.

NATIONAL DRIED Mostly prices were unchanged on blends, unchanged to lower on yolks, irregular on whole, but higher on albumen when compared to a week earlier. Demand ranged light to fair. Offerings were usually sufficient for trade needs. Trade sentiment was barely steady on yolks, barely steady to steady on whole, but fully steady to firm on albumen. Dried eggs processed under federal inspection for the week ending 31-Dec-2005 were 8% less than the previous week, and 26% lower than a year earlier. The total year to date production on dried eggs produced were 7% above a year ago.

Wholesale selling prices, dollars per lb., in cont., Trucklot and LTL volumes.

WHOLE	1.38-1.64	MOSTLY 1.50-1.60
YOLKS	1.38-2.10	MOSTLY 1.45-1.55
ALBUMEN, SPRAY, DRIED	2.42-2.70	MOSTLY 2.45-2.60
BLENDS (WHOLE PLUS SWEETENER)	1.29-1.50	MOSTLY 1.40-1.50

NATIONAL LIQUID Pasteurized salt yolk reported from 44 to 45 cents fob with pasteurized whites reported at 33 cents fob. Trade sentiment was mostly steady for whole egg, steady to fully steady for whites, and continued weak for yolk. Offerings were balanced to adequate for whole egg, adequate to instances tight for whites, and fully adequate to ample for yolk. Many breakers were refusing additional offers of heavy breaking stock and in turn were potential buyers of liquid whole egg. Demand was fair for whole egg, fairly good for whites, and sluggish for yolk. Central States breaking stock prices were unchanged from the previous week's reported prices.

Prices paid cents per lb., FOB Plant to 10:00 AM non-pasteurized trucklot. For delivery within 14 days.

CLASS	LOADS	RANGE	WTD. AVG.	CHANGE FROM LW
WHOLE	19	26-28.25	26.92	.36
WHITES	12	26-27	26.81	-.15
YOLKS	4	43-52.5	46.88	-3.88

TRAILER LOAD EGG SALES* WEEKLY WTD AVG PRICES (CENTS/DOZ) NATIONAL TRADING FOR DEC 30, 2005-JAN 05, 2006

CURRENT LOADS 88.50 FUTURE LOADS 55.20 TOTAL LOADS 143.75

SE		NE		MW		CURRENT LOADS		FUTURE LOADS		TOTAL LOADS		140W			
CLASS	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	LOADS	CLASS	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	ORG	DST	LOADS
GNR W 1	59.75	--	60.33	61.00	55.67	--	13.00	GNR W 1	--	--	--	--	--	81.50	1.00
GNR W 4	--	--	--	30.00	24.00	--	1.00	GL W J	64.33	73.00	--	--	--	78.00	4.00
GNR BR 1	--	81.00	--	87.00	--	77.00	4.00	GL W XL	48.31	59.92	--	--	--	60.83	16.00
GL W J	--	--	70.50	72.00	64.00	--	2.00	GL W LG	47.00	66.33	--	85.25	--	55.33	27.50
GL W XL	--	66.50	72.25	74.09	48.60	54.47	50.00	GL W MD	35.50	--	38.00	43.00	--	42.32	9.75
GL W LG	--	79.75	72.00	76.00	41.84	70.50	22.50	GL BR XL	--	--	--	--	--	97.00	.50
GL W MD	51.00	49.00	46.50	48.00	30.70	31.45	26.50	GL BR LG	--	--	--	102.75	--	96.00	1.75
GL W SM	--	--	37.00	39.00	--	--	2.00								
GL BR XL	--	--	--	--	--	--	.50								
GL BR LG	--	--	--	--	--	--	1.75								
NRBS - 48	--	--	--	--	--	37.00	36.00								

*Weighted average prices are listed for various classes priced by origin and/or destination for 6 regions. The loads column reflects total loads reported and includes loads with prices to be determined later. NRBS categories represent net weight-material may or may not be included. Load movement represents total movement within 6 regions.

LIGHT TYPE HENS

CENTS PER HEAD, GENERALLY FOR REMOVAL WITHIN THE NEXT 10 DAYS (INCLUDES HANDLING, FREIGHT AND ANY OTHER CHARGES, WEIGHTS AVERAGE ABOUT 3.50 POUNDS)

EASTERN REGION LIGHT LIVE HENS Prices were unchanged when compared to a week earlier. Demand was at least moderate for the mostly adequate offerings of spent hens. Processing schedules were less than normal due to the holiday. Trade sentiment was steady.

	RANGE	MAJORITY
REMOVAL COST	3-11	7-9

SOUTH CENTRAL LIGHT LIVE HENS Salvage costs were TFEWR. Demand was light for fully adequate offerings of spent hens. Schedules were reduced. Finished sales were slow. Disposal values were expected to remain about steady.

	RANGE	MAJORITY
REMOVAL COST	TOO FEW TO REPORT	

NORTH CENTRAL LIGHT LIVE HENS Removal costs continue unchanged. Demand was moderate with offerings adequate to fully adequate. Schedules full-time. Trade sentiment steady to fully steady.

	RANGE	MAJORITY
REMOVAL COST	.5-5.5	

WEST COAST LIGHT Plant schedules full. Offerings ample.

COMBINED REGIONAL SHELL EGGS

Average prices on sales to volume buyers, Grade A Large or better, White eggs in cartons, delivered warehouse, cents per dozen.

REGIONS	EX LARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM
NORTHEAST	87.50	87.00	59.00
SOUTHEAST	90.50	88.50	58.00
MIDWEST	81.50	79.50	50.50
SOUTH CENTRAL	91.50	89.50	57.50
COMBINED REGIONAL	87.89	86.24	56.25

Computed from simple weekly averages weighted by regional area populations

NATIONAL CANNER FOWL MARKET Trading was too few to report for heavy canners; unchanged on lights when compared to the previous week. Demand was generally fair for light canners; mostly moderate for heavy canners with most available supplies being used internally. Offerings were generally adequate current trade needs. Processing schedules were less than normal due to the holiday. The undertone was steady.

Cents per Pound, Current Negotiations, Without Freight Cost

LIGHT CANNER HENS (LINE RUN WITHOUT NECKS)	HEAVY CANNER HENS (WITHOUT NECKS)
20-29 MAJORITY 24.5-25.5	TOO FEW SALES TO REPORT

Cents per Pound, Current Negotiations, Freight Cost Included

LIGHT CANNER HENS (LINE RUN WITHOUT NECKS)	HEAVY CANNER HENS (WITHOUT NECKS)
21-32 MAJORITY 26-27	TOO FEW SALES TO REPORT

U.S./Canadian Live Poultry Slaughtered Under Inspection

W/E 24-Dec-05 (PRELIMINARY)

U.S. Fowl Slaughtered Domestically

	Light Hens	Heavy Hens	Total Hens
	Thousands		
Head	1,472	1,297	2,769
Last Week	1,404	1,488	2,892
Same week yr ago	1,102	1,175	2,277
To-date/2005	72,508	72,143	144,651
To-date/2004	69,513	69,222	138,735

U.S. Fowl Slaughtered in Canada

	Light Hens	Heavy Hens	Total Hens
	Thousands		
Head	244	2	246
Last Week	142	0	142
Same week yr ago	174	11	185
To-date/2005	12,810	68	12,878
To-date/2004	12,639	158	12,797

Data Source: Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, AISD, AID, Poultry Section

Total U.S. Fowl slaughtered in the U.S. and Canada

	Light Hens	Heavy Hens	Total Hens
	Thousands		
Head	1,716	1,299	3,015
Last Week	1,546	1,488	3,034
Same week yr ago	1,276	1,186	2,462
To-date/2005	85,318	72,211	157,529
To-date/2004	82,152	69,380	151,532

Source: USDA/AMS Poultry Programs, Market News Branch

Inspected Egg Products-U.S. & Canada Export/Import Trade**U.S. Exports to Canada, in Pounds (000) (Preliminary)**

Week Ending December 24, 2005		Year-To-Date	
TYPE	2005	2004 1/	2005 2/ 2004
Liquid	353	355	17,395 20,539
Frozen	0	0	130 39
Dried	0	0	862 913
Total	353	355	18,387 21,491

U.S. Imports From Canada, in Pounds (000) (Preliminary)

Week Ending December 24, 2005		Year-To-Date	
TYPE	2005	2004 1/	2005 2/ 2004
Liquid	44	111	6,519 7,689
Frozen	5	9	823 1,608
Dried	0	36	371 2,149
Total	49	156	7,713 11,446

Inspected Shell Eggs**U.S Exports To Canada, In 30-Dozen Cases (Preliminary)**

Week Ending December 24, 2005		Year-To-Date	
TYPE	2005	2004 1/	2005 2/ 2004
Jumbo	0	0	200 392
Extra Large	3,150	4,480	186,391 232,566
Large	6,990	7,920	312,446 475,623
Medium	0	2,969	100,007 142,091
Ungraded	0	2,456	232,678 340,611
Misc	0	0	9,753 17,740
Total	10,140	17,825	841,475 1,209,023

1/ Comparable Week, to-date figures may not total due to rounding.

2/ Includes revisions to previous week(s).

Data Source: Agriculture and Agri-Food Canada, AISD, AID, Poultry Section

Source: USDA/AMS Poultry Programs, Market News Branch.

COMMERCIAL EGG MOVEMENT

W/E 31-Dec-2005

CASES

(Receipts From Producers)

PERCENT CHANGE FROM

REGIONS	(IN THOUS)	PW	LY
North Atlantic	150.9	-33	-27
East North Central	631.0	0	-2
West North Central	307.4	6	-4
South Atlantic	208.2	-3	-4
South Central	64.3	-9	-8
West	201.0	-8	-3
Total	1546.1	-5	-6
Matched Plants reporting		84	84

Areas Covered: North Atlantic (ME,VT,MA,RI,CT,NH,NY,PA,NJ,MC,DE)
 East North Central (WI,IL,MI,OH,IN) West North Central (IA,MN,MO,KS,SD)
 South Atlantic (SC,NC,VA,GA,FL,KY) South Central (TN,AL,AR,MS,OK)
 West (CA,CO,WA,OR,UT)

MOVEMENT OF EGGS INTO RETAIL CHANNELS

W/E 31-Dec-2005

Selected Consuming Centers	CW	LW	PERCENT CHANGE	
	(Thousands)		LW	LY
Atlanta	36.1	38.9	-7	34
Boston	3.1	3.2	-3	-9
Chicago	72.6	106.8	-32	1
Detroit	26.5	34.7	-24	-6
Kansas City	3.8	5.1	-25	23
Los Angeles	108.8	122.0	-11	16
New Orleans	6.6	6.3	5	-8
New York	29.7	37.0	-20	3
St. Louis	19.1	18.5	3	-11
San Francisco	18.9	21.6	-13	-18
Total	325.2	394.1	-17	6
4 Week Moving Avg.	368.4			

COLD STORAGE HOLDINGS - Selected Centers

(INCL GOVT STOCKS) (IN THOUSANDS)

	Frozen Eggs/LBS	Turkeys/LBS	Processed other Poultry/LBS
AM 01/02/06	3,410	31,772	67,392
AM 12/01/05	3,375	33,192	75,095
CHG	35	-1420	-7703
PCT CHG	1%	-4%	-10%

Based on the historical relationship of the preliminary U.S. Cold Storage holdings report of November 30, 2005 and the selected centers storage report, the expected U.S. holdings on January 1, 2006 are:

FROZEN EGGS	18 MIL LBS PLUS OR MINUS	5%
TURKEYS	192 MIL LBS PLUS OR MINUS	5%
POULTRY	782 MIL LBS PLUS OR MINUS	5%

NEW ENGLAND WEEKLY SHELL EGG REPORT

Jan 3, 2006

Prices paid per dozen Grade A Brown eggs in cartons delivered store door.

	EXTRA LARGE	LARGE	MEDIUM	SMALL
MAINE	136	132	88	56
MOSTLY	-	-	-	-
NEW HAMPSHIRE	129-133	125-129	81-85	49-53
MOSTLY	131-132	127-128	83-84	51-52
RHODE ISLAND	134-139	131-135	87-91	55-59
MOSTLY	134	131	87	55
VERMONT	136	131	88-89	-
MOSTLY	-	-	88	-

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